

REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 9, 11-17 and 19-36 are presented for examination. Claims 8 and 10 have been cancelled. Claims 18 and 37-57 are withdrawn from consideration.

In view of Examiner's comments, claim 1 has been rewritten to more clearly define the claimed invention. Claims 8 and 10 have been cancelled because the amended claim 1 incorporates their subject matter.

Claim 1, as amended, recites a system for preventing unauthorized access to products in a retail system, comprising:

- an order-processing system for receiving from a customer an order for a product,
- a storage facility for storing the product ordered by the customer,
- a purchase obtaining facility having a purchase pick-up point for enabling the customer to pick up the ordered product, the purchase obtaining facility being remote with respect to the storage facility, and
- a tracking system for tracking the ordered product from time when the ordered product is handled at the storage facility to time when the product is picked up by the customer at the purchase pick-up point, to eliminate exposure of the product to contamination by an unwanted substance.

The claim indicates that the tracking system is configured to:

- obtain authorization information identifying personnel authorized to perform operations in connection with the product, and
- obtain information identifying personnel involved in handling the product.

Further, the claim indicates that the tracking system has an unauthorized access warning mechanism responsive to the authorization information and to the information on the personnel

Application No.: 10/046,309

involved in handling the product for providing indication of an access to the product by an unauthorized person.

Hence, the claimed tracking system performs product tracking **from time when the ordered product is handled at the storage facility to time when the product is picked up by the customer at the purchase pick-up point**, to eliminate exposure of the product to contamination by an unwanted substance. The system provides indication of an access to the product by an unauthorized person,

In particular, this system may provide tracking food products ordered by the customer in order to prevent their contamination by unwanted substances.

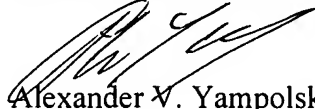
The prior art of record neither teaches nor suggests the claimed arrangement.

In view of the foregoing, and in summary, claims 1-7, 9, 11-17 and 19-36 are considered to be in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP


Alexander V. Yampolsky
Registration No. 36,324

600 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-3096
Phone: 202.756.8000 AVY:apr
Facsimile: 202.756.8087
Date: February 16, 2006

**Please recognize our Customer No. 20277
as our correspondence address.**